

At West Kilbride Parish Church on 2nd November 2021, which date and place the Presbytery of Ardrossan met and was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, Rev David Sutherland BD.

Sederunt

Rev David Sutherland (Moderator), Mrs Jean Hunter (Clerk)

Ministers: Rev Hilary Beresford, Rev Nigel Chikanya, Rev Scott Cameron, Rev Alan Ford, Rev Caryl Kyle, Rev Roderick Macdonald, Rev Tom McIntyre, Rev James McNay, Rev Dr Graham McWilliams, Rev Sarah Nicol, Rev Alan Ward, Rev David Watson.

Elders: Mr Ian Brown, Mrs Margaret Cassidy, Mrs Elizabeth Clark, Mr Archie Currie, Mrs Lynn Kerr, Mrs Linda McClelland, Mrs Sharon MacLeod, Mr Stuart McMahan, Mr Fulton Murdoch, Mr Brian Murray, Mrs Dierdre Murray, Mr David Noble, Mr William Parker, Mr Allan Richardson, Mrs Peigi Robb, Mr Magnus Ross, Mrs Kay Tudor,

Deacons: Mrs I Beck.

Corresponding Members: Mrs Carol Boyd, Mr Brian Devlin, Mrs Mary Ford, Mr Angus McKay.

Apologies for Absence

Ministers: Rev Marion Howie, Rev Marjory Mackay, Rev Ross Mitchell, Rev Fiona Ross, Rev David Stewart, Rev Martin Thompson, Rev Elizabeth Watson.

Elders: Mrs Mary Aitken, Mrs Aileen Brookens, Mrs Elizabeth R Clarke, Mrs Christine Thomas.

Deacons: Miss Fiona Blair.

Corresponding Members: Mr Andrew Bruce, Mrs Elizabeth Clarke, Mrs Helen Kerr.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th October 2021 (Pages 23-26) were approved.

Correspondence

An E mail received from the Sailors Society with information that they have provided vital Covid support to more than 26,000 Indian seafarers and their families in India.

Roll of Presbytery

Added to the roll as Corresponding members, MDS staff Mrs Carol Boyd, Mr Brian Devlin, and Mr Angus McKay.

Order of Business

Was as in the print with an added deliverance at Church & Society No. 1 – Receive the report - and then renumbered 2 & 3.

OVERTURE UNDER THE BARRIER ACT

Solemnisation of Same Sex Marriage Overture//

//Overture

Rev David Watson, Convener of the Business Committee presented a report on the Overture. The explanation of the Overture was contained within the General Assembly 2021 Remits booklet which had been previously circulated.

Questions and Comments were taken.

Presbytery then proceeded to vote on the Solemnisation of Same Sex Marriage Overture.

After an adjournment while the votes cast were counted by Mr Allan Richardson and Mrs Ailsa Morrison, Presbytery reconvened and the Clerk intimated the result.

APPROVE.....18 DISAPPROVE.....18

Decision of Presbytery: Split decision on the Solemnisation of Same Sex Marriage.

Comment to be added to the Return Form: The split decision of Ardrossan Presbytery was an indicator of the division in the church on this matter.

STANDING COMMITTEES

REPORTS & DELIVERANCES

Business Committee

Rev David Watson, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report:
2. **Notice of Motion: Overture under the Barrier Act Overture Amending the Church Courts Act (ACT III 2000)** will be considered at the December meeting of Presbytery.
(GA 2021 Remits)
3. **Noted** that the **Overture Amending the Church Courts Act (ACT III 2000)** has been remitted to the Presbytery Clerk for preparation for the December Presbytery meeting.
4. **Noted** that Rev Fiona Ross, minister of Kilbirnie St Columba's church was on sick leave until 2nd December.
5. **Noted** that there were fourteen presbyters who volunteered for the South West Presbytery Working Consultation Groups.
6. **Noted** that the Presbytery budget for 2022 would be for 9 months, this would take us into the new united South West Presbytery in September.
7. **Noted that the December** meeting of Presbytery should take place within Ardrossan & Saltcoats Kirkgate Parish Church.

Mission Committee

Rev Nigel Chikanya, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery://

//Presbytery:

1. **Receive** the report;
2. **Noted** the work done on discipleship and **urges** Kirk Sessions to utilise the resources provided by Assembly and the Mission Committee, all aimed at our call to discipleship and following Christ.
3. **Urges** congregations to provide an opportunity to young people within their congregations and groups of young people to speak out on their concerns.
4. **Encourages** all the congregations to explore and make use of the 4 Presbytery Mission Groups to work together in sharing information, and resources especially in Mission and discipleship.
5. **Noted** the insights gained from the Path of Renewal and encourages the continuation of the projects by allowing congregations through the Mission Committee to share on their success and challenges.
6. **Encourages** local missional communities to form partnerships, to consider the covenants for example, the Lund Principle.

Finance and Stewardship Committee

Mr Fulton Murdoch, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received the Report.**
2. **Approved** the Ministries and Mission Contributions for 2022 circulated with the October Presbytery papers, in accordance with the **Notice of Motion** given at the October Presbytery meeting.

Church and Society Committee

Mr Archie Currie, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Receive the report**
2. **Noted** and take back to congregations the following remits from General Assembly;
 - a) **Recognises** and give thanks for the critical role of the voices, concerns, and passion of young people involved in the life of the Church of Scotland who have campaigned for disinvestment from fossil fuels; and urge congregations to provide an opportunity to listen to young people in the congregation, or in the local community, to hear about their concerns.
Invites Kirk Sessions to arrange a public meeting to consider themes and ideas for a just and green future following the Covid-19 pandemic, and identify the implications for their parish, the wider community, for Scotland and the world, and instruct the Forum to support Kirk Sessions in this.
 - b) **Urges Kirk Sessions** to take part in the basic training provided by Integrity – the Church of Scotland’s Violence Against Women Task Group. (On the Church of Scotland website, search for Integrity)
 - c) **Urges** all parts of the Church of Scotland to continue to support Christian Aid as an expression of the Church of Scotland’s solidarity and commitment to eradicating poverty worldwide.
 - d) **Urges** congregations and Presbyteries to seek ways to listen and learn from partner churches around the world in relation to issues such as poverty, climate change, migration, HIV, //

//HIV, recovery from Covid-19 and interfaith activities, and to develop partner and twinning relationships.

3. **Noted** and commend to Presbytery the supplement to Life and Work on COP26. This is a concise source of information and events around COP26. It can be found at www.lifeandwork.org.

Property Committee

Mr Brian Murray, Convener gave a report and Presbytery approved the following deliverances:

Presbytery:

1. **Received** the report:
2. **Homologated** the decision taken by the Presbytery Clerk and the Property Convener in the summer recess of Presbytery to allow Largs: St. Columba’s Church to carry out major repair and replacement works to the heating system. An extract minute had been received and monies are available from the church funds for the works all in the amount of £24,780.63 plus VAT.

Adjournment

Presbytery adjourned to meet on Tuesday 7th December 2021 within Ardrossan & Saltcoats: Kirkgate Parish Church for the conduct of Ordinary Business.

Business Committee to meet on Wednesday 24th November 2021 at 10.00am virtually on Zoom.

Benediction

Presbytery was then adjourned by the pronouncing of the benediction by Rev David Sutherland.

.....Moderator

.....Clerk
